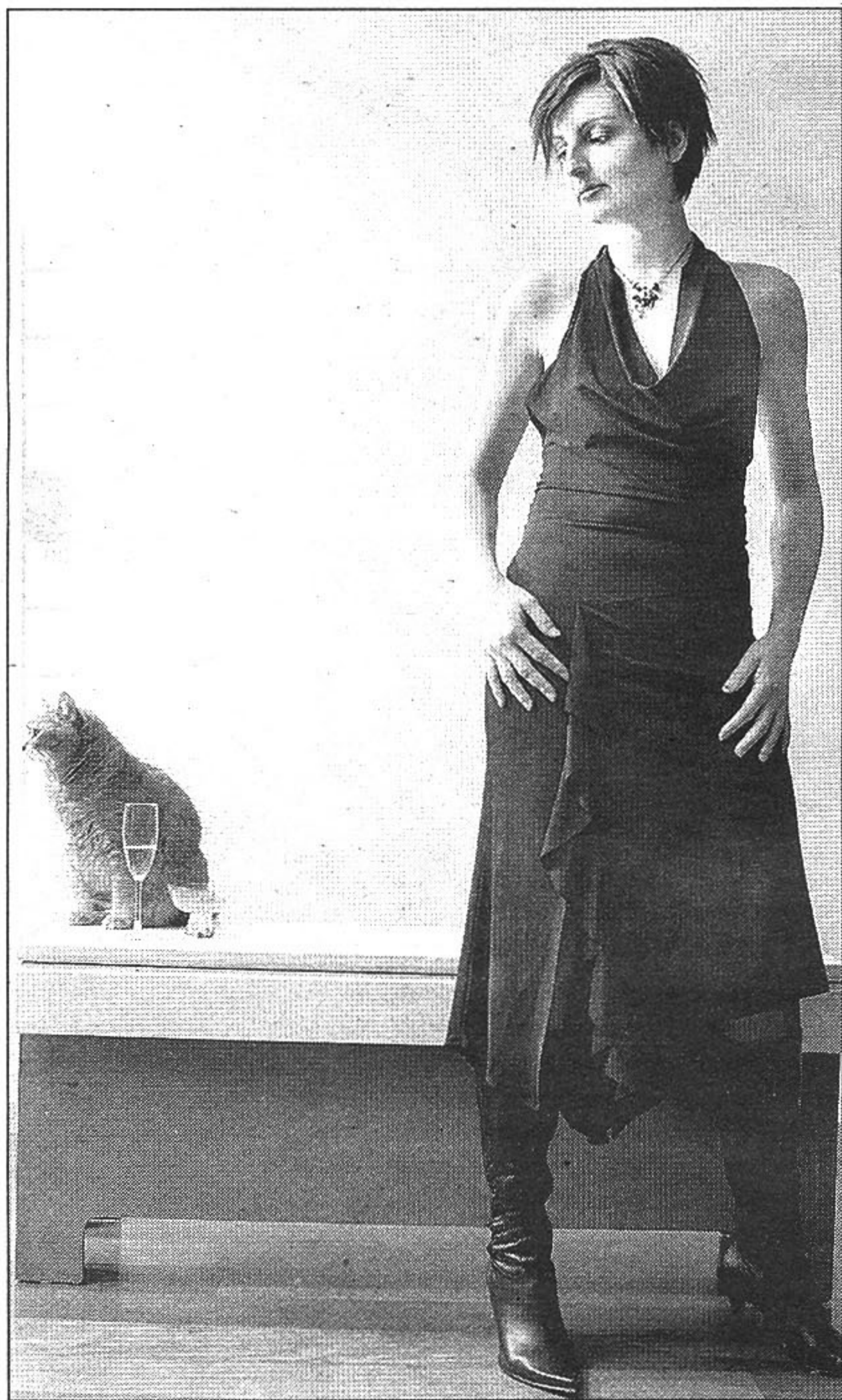


Litter, boxed

Kattbank conceals your cat's litter, in style



Timothy Gunther

The chic and stylish Kattbank fits perfectly into the décor of even the most fashionable homes.

Often, the most ingenious solutions to the challenge of sharing living space with pets are not found at Petco. Case in point: Kattbank, the first truly stylish solution for concealing what every cat owner wants to hide: the litter box. For house-proud cat lovers, Kattbank is the biggest design scoop since Ed Lowe of Michigan invented cat litter in 1947.

The creation of Travis Weedman and Arielle Glade, married principals of the design firm Compressed Pattern in Portland, Ore., Kattbank (that's Swedish for "cat bench") is a ventilated seat that's such an effective cloaking device, Weedman and Glade keep it in their dining room and their guests are none the wiser. What's more, the Kattbank's profile is so sleek, it's ready for its close-up in Metropolitan Home magazine.

Made of hardwood plywood and finished in your choice of wood veneer or color lacquer, Kattbank comes in two lengths: 48 inches (for one cat) or 60 inches (long enough to accommodate two cats). The bottom of the bench is lined with a removable plastic grid that cleans a cat's paws as she exits, so she won't track litter all over the place.



Revolutionary design doesn't come cheap, however: Kattbank retails for \$1,700 to \$2,200 (plus shipping) on the Web site kattbank.com.

Meanwhile, if you enjoy displaying flowers in your cat's house, avoid Easter lilies at all costs. Right now, florists are pushing them, but all species of lily are extremely toxic to cats, veterinarians warn.

Instead, create a cat-safe holiday centerpiece using wheat grass. It's the choice of New York's smartest decorators, who put the green stuff in small terra cotta pots, or frame it with simple wooden boxes. Cats love nibbling at wheat grass, which promotes healthy digestion and a glossy coat, and helps prevent hairballs. Find fresh wheat grass at the Union Square Greenmarket on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays, or call Greener Pastures at (718) 852-3979.

js@pet-reporter.com